

Fatigue strength— 10^6 cycles (0–690 MPa cyclical test)

Ultimate tensile strength—1150 MPa

Referring now to FIG. 2 of the drawing, similar parts to the example disclosed above in relation to FIG. 1 are accorded the same reference numerals. In this example, the internal bore 12 of gear body 10 as illustrated in FIG. 2 has a diameter d which is less than the final internal diameter D of the finished gear by an amount corresponding to twice the intended root-to-tip height h of the teeth in the finished gear. However, an annular recess 26 is cut into the internal bore 11 of the body 10 so as to extend axially from one end of the latter for about one-third of the length of the body. Collapsible wall 16 is welded at 18 to the internal bore 11 so as to close the inner periphery of annular recess 26 whereby open-topped annular chamber 14 is defined, into which latter Stellite 6 in a finely divided form is packed. In this embodiment, the annular wall is a simple sleeve having no tooth form thereon. The top of chamber 14 is then closed by annular plate 22 welded to the end of the body 10 and to the wall 16, followed by evacuation of the chamber 14 through vent pipe 28 which is then securely sealed.

The whole assembly is then hot isostatically pressed. Following hot isostatic pressing the wall 16 and plate 22 are machined away, the internal bore 12 is machined to final diameter D and the required tooth form is machined in the hot isostatically pressed Stellite 6 powder.

We claim:

1. A gear comprising a body and gear teeth, said gear teeth being formed of a cobalt-based alloy which has been hot isostatically pressed from a powder for providing high fatigue strength and high corrosion resistance, said cobalt alloy consisting essentially of 10–35 wt % chromium, 0–22 wt % nickel, 0–20 wt % tungsten, 0–20 wt % iron, 0–10 wt % vanadium, 0–10 wt % molybdenum, 0–6 wt % niobium, 0–3 wt % silicon, 0–3 wt % carbon, 0–3 wt % boron, 0–1 wt % manganese, the balance, apart from impurities, being cobalt.

2. The gear as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cobalt-based alloy consists of 26 wt % chromium, 5 wt % tungsten, 1 wt % carbon and 6 wt % niobium, the balance apart from impurities, being cobalt.

3. The gear as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cobalt-based alloy consists of 29 wt % chromium, 9 wt % tungsten and 1.8 wt % carbon, the balance, apart from impurities, being cobalt.

4. The gear as claimed in claim 1, wherein said body is one which has been formed integrally with said gear teeth out of the same alloy in the same hot isostatic pressing operation.

5. The gear as claimed in claim 1, wherein said body is formed of precipitation-hardened stainless steel and said teeth are formed of the specified cobalt-based alloy, said teeth being joined to said body by means of a diffusion bond.

6. The gear as claimed in claim 1, wherein the particle size of said powder subjected to hot isostatic pressing is such that it passes through a 150 μm sieve.

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